

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00099 130905Z
ACTION CU-05

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, CZ, TGEN
SUBJECT: EXCHANGE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION TALKS

REF PRAGUE 3643

1. FMTIR FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICER SLAMENEC TOLD PAO JANUARY 10 GOC
WILL HOLD A MEETING THIS WEEK OF ALL SCIENTIFIC BODIES AFFECTED BY THE

US-CZECHOSLOVAK EXCHANGES AGREEMENT SCIENTIFIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
TO AGREE ON FINAL WORDING OF THE DOCUMENT. SLAMENEC SAID HE HOPED
MEETING WOULD PRODUCE NO CHANGES IN THE DRAFT, WHICH HE EXPECTS TO BE
"MOSTLY THE DRAFT MR. RICHMOND GAVE US IN SEPTEMBER WITH THE CHANGES
I GAVE YOU ON DECEMBER 23." SLAMENEC SAID HE UNDERSTOOD NEED TO
AVOID MENTIONING SPECIFIC AMERICAN AGENCIES AND PROJECTS IN THE
AGREEMENT UNTIL SUCH PROJECTS HAVE BEEN PRECISELY FORMULATED BY
SCIENTISTS ON BOTH SIDES, WHICH COULD TAKE UP TO A YEAR.

2. HE SAID, HOWEVER, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IS STILL
ADAMANT ON "ONE AGREEMENT, TWO SEPARATE IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENTS,
BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT WE AGREED TO IN THE ORIGINAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH
AMBASSADOR ZEMLA, AND BECAUSE IN OUR BUREAUCRACY, SCIENCE AND
CULTURE ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SEPARATE GROUPS". PAO POINTED OUT
SEVERAL FORMULAR HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED, INCLUDING THOSE FLOATED BY
GOC, THAT WOULD RESULT IN A DOCUMENT WHICH THE GOC COULD DIVIDE
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INTO SECTIONS AND HAVE SIGNED BY SEVERAL PERSONS. SLAMANEC SAID
HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH MFA OFFICIALS SOON TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION
AND "IN EARLY FEBRUARY WE WILL PROBABLY BE PRESENTING YOU WITH OUR
DRAFT."

3. SLAMENEC SAID GOC HOPES THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JABLONSKY
WILL GO TO WASHINGTON THIS SPRING TO SIGN THE FINISHED DOCUMENT.

HE ALSO INDICATED A VICE MINISTER OF THE FEDERAL INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY MIGHT WANT TO ACCOMPANY JABLONSKY TO SIGN THE DOCUMENT FOR THAT MINISTRY, WHICH WILL COORDINATE ALL GOC OVERSEAS SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS, BUT THIS QUESTION HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED.

4. COMMENT: WHILE CZECHOSLOVOKS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR WIND-UP OF TALKS ON IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS IN COMING WEEKS AND ARRANGEMENT OF SPRING CEREMONY WITH JABLONSKY IN WASHINGTON, EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE HOLDING FAST TO THE POSITION THAT THESE MATTERS MUST BE CONSIDERED ONE STEP AT A TIME-- I.E. THAT ONLY AFTER COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION CAN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO A FORMAL SIGNING CEREMONY. (SEE PRAGUE 3484, PARA FOUR). WE WILL ADHERE TO THIS POSITION, MAINLY, TO AVOID ANY COMMITMENTS WITH GOC THAT COULD PROVE AWKWARD, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO KEEP ACROSS THE BACKDROP OF CZECH HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS.
BYRNE

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